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PART I.

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Season and Crop Report.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. C. Per A. 104, dated 28th May 1925, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore forwarding the Season and Crop Report of the State for 1923-24 together with his review thereon.

2. Letter No. R.O.C. 1697—H. C., dated 6th May 1925, from the Director of Agriculture in Mysore, communicating the remarks on the Season and Crop Report for 1923-24.

ORDER NO. L. C. 71-125—STCS. 33-24-10, DATED 4TH JULY 1925.

Recorded with the observation that the delay of over three months in the submission of the report should have been avoided.

2. The average rainfall for the State for the year 1923-24 was 40·74 inches, as against 34·05 inches during 1922-23. The increase was unevenly distributed among the several Districts with the result that the averages for the Bangalore, Kolar, Tumkur, Mysore and Chitaldrug Districts for 1923-24 were considerably below the corresponding figures for 1922-23 while the averages for Hassan, Shimoga and Kadur Districts were higher. There were heavy floods in the Cauvery, Tungabadra and their affluents, while the eastern Districts, notably Tumkur and Kolar suffered from drought. There was a great shortage of fodder and drinking water and an elaborate campaign of relief had to be organised.

Area of the State.—The area of the State according to professional survey is 189,41,873 acres. Of this, 13,22,536 acres consist of alienated tracts such as jahgirs, jodi villages, etc. The balance, *viz.*, 176,19,337 acres is the net area of the State as against 175,37,531 acres during 1922-23, the variation in the figures being due to resurvey in some of the Districts.

Classification of area.—Out of a tatal extent of 176,19,337 acres, 18,30,442 acres were covered by Forests and 71,44,770 acres were not available for cultivation being barren and uncultivable or covered by buildings, water and roads or appropriated for uses other than agriculture. Excluding this area as also the extent of cultivable waste *viz.*, 6,90,237 acres, an extent of 79,53,888 acres was in occupancy as against 79,10,305 acres during 1922-23. The extent of fallow land increased from 17,86,307 acres to 20,44,645 acres during the year under review owing mainly to the adverse seasonal conditions, specially in the Eastern Districts.

Specification of crops.—The total cropped area decreased from 64,61,009 acres in 1922-23 to 61,44,810 acres during the year under report. The decrease is mainly owing to the fall in the extent of cultivation under many important crops, such as rice, wheat,

cholum, ragi, horsegram and pulses. There was however a small increase in the area under cultivation under ground-nut and cotton.

Exports and Imports (by rail) of the chief agricultural products.—During the year under review, raw cotton, cocoanut, coffee, jawar and bajra, castor, cotton seeds, sugar and jaggory were exported in large quantities. There was a considerable fall in the export of tanning barks, fresh fruits and vegetables, copra, grains, and pulses, paddy, ragi, wheat, wheat flour, ground-nuts and gingelly.

Among the articles imported the most important are raw cotton, tanning barks, grain and pulses, bajra, paddy, rice (not in husk), ragi, wheat, wheat flour, coriander, tobacco, refined sugar and molasses.

The subjoined statement shows the wholesale prices of important staple food grains in the State:—

Description	Price per palla ranged from (1923-24)	Price per palla ranged from (1922-23)
	Rs. a. p. Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p. Rs. a. p.
Rice 1st sort	22 10 0 to 29 4 0	20 12 0 to 31 0 0
„ 2nd sort	19 8 0 to 23 2 0	18 2 0 to 22 10 0
Ragi	10 7 0 to 13 1 0	9 2 0 to 12 0 0
Cholum	11 0 0 to 13 8 0	9 8 0 to 12 0 0
Bengal gram	15 4 0 to 20 0 0	18 14 0 to 22 10 0
Salt	10 4 0 to 12 8 0	8 0 0 to 9 14 0

It will be seen from the above statement that there was a slight increase in prices of the principal food stuffs as compared with those of last year.

B. NAGAPPA,

Secy. to Govt., Local and Legis. Depts.
(In charge) Revenue Department.

Reports, registers and returns in District Offices.

READ:—

Correspondence ending with letter No. G. 255—E. A. 49-21-2, dated the 27th December 1922, to the Revenue Commissioner, desiring that no new forms should be printed pending final orders on the question of simplification of work in District and Taluk Offices.

2. Government Order No. R. 2880-9—L. R. 11-23-6, dated the 10th November 1924, issuing orders on the improvement of the system of office procedure and simplification of work in Revenue Offices and directing, among other matters, that the question of further reduction and simplification of work by cutting out unnecessary registers and returns should be examined by a Special Officer.

3. Note dated the 14th February 1925, from the Inspector of Office Systems and Officer in charge of Revenue Audit, submitting in accordance with the above direction, his detailed suggestions regarding the reduction, standardization and simplification of reports, registers and returns in the District Offices. (Revenue Department.)

(Printed as annexure No. 1.)

4. Un-official Note No. D. Dis. 526—24-25, dated the 2nd March 1925, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore forwarding his opinion in the matter.

(Printed as annexure No. 2.)

ORDER No. R. 6900-12—L. R. 395-24-1, DATED 20TH MAY 1925.

In para 10 of the order of 10th November 1924, Government indicated some suggestions for reducing work in District Offices by cutting out unnecessary registers and returns and observed that as there was scope for further simplification of work, the question should be examined in detail and a report submitted for final orders by the Inspector of Office Systems.

2. In his note read above, the Inspector has submitted the results of his detailed examination and formulated proposals for the reduction and simplification of work in the Deputy Commissioners' Offices with a view to concentrate attention on and speed up the more important items of business

3. The Revenue Commissioner who was consulted is in general agreement with the proposals made by the Inspector of Office Systems and has suggested their acceptance with a few modifications.

4. Government are of opinion that the suggestions which are in furtherance of the policy of decentralisation are on the whole well-considered, and they accordingly accept the Revenue Commissioner's recommendation,

5. According to the Standing Orders, 76 registers are required to be maintained by the Munshi and Account Branches of the District Office (Revenue Department), 116 returns are due by and 103 returns are due to the same.

6. The proposals accepted by Government and printed as annexure to this order will result in the reduction or simplification of 70 registers and returns and Government hope that as a result of the measures sanctioned in the Government Order of 10th November 1924 and the further relief afforded in this order, the work in the District and subordinate Revenue Offices will be speeded up and the District administration improved generally.

7. Government trust that the Revenue Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioners of Districts will continue to exercise sufficient control and supervision during their inspection and ensure that the statistical information covered by the returns now discontinued is always maintained up-to-date in the original offices, so that it may readily be available for reference whenever required.

8. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to issue the necessary amendment slips to the District Office Manual and arrange with the Superintendent of the Government Printing to have the standard forms printed and supplied to the Deputy Commissioners on indents at an early date. The simplification of registers and returns in use in the subordinate offices will be dealt with separately.

9. Government reiterate their observation made in para 12 of the Government Order of 10th November 1924, that there is much scope for reduction of establishment in District Offices, in view of the adoption of the several measures sanctioned for simplifying work in the said offices and the Revenue Commissioner is requested to go into the question and submit necessary proposals after the new arrangements are brought into working order.

K. V. ANANTARAMAN,
Secretary to Government,
Revenue Department.

ANNEXURE No. 1.

Note on reduction, standardisation and simplification of reports, registers and returns in the Revenue Department, District Offices.

1. The question of abolishing unnecessary reports and returns has been considered in the past by Special Officers and Committees appointed from time to time and suitable orders have been passed by Government on their recommendations.

2. The District and Taluk Office Manuals were printed and published in 1919 and 1920 and in reply to the Revenue Commissioner's reference for getting the forms and registers printed in the Government Press, Government in letter No. G. 255—E. A. 49-21-2, dated the 27th December 1922, directed that no new forms should be printed, pending final orders on the question of simplification of work in District and Taluk Offices.

3. In paragraph 10 of Government Order No. R. 2880-9—L. R. 111-23-6, dated the 10th November 1924, it has been indicated that certain registers may conveniently be abolished, that certain reports may be cut out or submitted at longer intervals and that as the list is not exhaustive and further reduction of work is possible, the question should be examined in detail and proposals submitted.

4. There are two important aspects to be considered in approaching the question. Abolition of a return from one office to another does not necessarily mean that the work, the progress of which it is expected to detail, is unnecessary, but the return may be cut out as a measure of decentralisation, *i.e.*, greater trust in the capacity of the officers concerned to discharge their functions properly. The officers will be expected to devote as much attention to the subject matter, in fact more than before, owing to the greater freedom for regulating their operations. The required registers, which will continue to be maintained in the subordinate offices, will be periodically examined by the superior authority during the local inspections and such inspections should be thorough, so as to detect cases of laxity and inefficieney, wherever existing, for severe notice. (*Vide* Government Order No. I. C. 1610-14—I. & C. 85-22-1, dated the 12th September 1922, para 2.)

5. Under Government Order No. 160—E. A. G. 2, dated 10th April 1917, the Deputy Commissioners were required to submit their Business Statistics half-yearly in two statements—one relating to correspondence and the other to inspections, quartely